

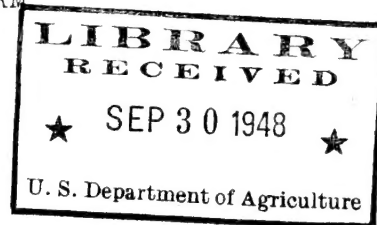
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PROGRESS REPORT ON AMERICA'S #1 TREE CROP FARM

HEADQUARTERS IN RESEARCH

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To Magazine and Radio Editors: This material is presented for the purpose of "making better living thru living things." Use it as you like it.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} \text{Idle People} & \text{Idle Money} & \\ \hline & + & \\ \text{Idle Acres} & \text{Tree Crops} & = \text{Prosperity} \end{array}$$

NURSERY

NEW AND INTERESTING

A limited number of USDA'S three new Chinese Chestnut varieties. These three have been carefully selected for their high quality of nut and heavy bearing, Nanking, Kuling, Meiling.

A few grafted trees of a timber type Chinese Chestnut with a record of good nuts and heavy bearer.

Honey Locust: A few of a selected Penna. variety "Schofer," much more hardy than Calhoun or Millwood. We believe these will solve the northern planting problem. We'll be glad to supply any one with a trial tree or two while they last. A promising sweet podded honey locust from Omaha, Nebr. One scion growing well, top-worked. This should be as hardy as the pioneers that settled that great state.

A Burr Oak second year from transplanting, 3rd from graft with several clusters of acorns. A couple grafted Chinquapin oak and Burr, 4 years old also bearing lightly. Now hold your hat if you're a believer in oaks bearing only when they're gray haired - 10 year Chinquapin oak seedling, 4 years from transplant, 12 ft. high with a few acorns.

That Single Lobed Black Walnut. Yep, another has shown up in nuts from a mid-west orchard of mixed varieties. Much better nut than Stabler, nearly as large as Thomas, flavor, excellent or better, shell thin. Is it a tree or a sport? The owner is determined to find out.

Mulberry, White: This new variety bore this summer. Comes in a little ahead of Downing, fruit a little small but as high flavored as the Hicks. As any know who are interested in mulberries, the Hicks is King in flavor. Tree as hardy as black walnut.

TREE BLACK BERRY: Four plants procured from northern Texas spring '47 guaranteed hardy. Stood the long hard winter and now at 7 ft. are each bearing a handful of berries. Unlike the acclaimed varieties, highly acid and sour, this fruit is sweet - about the size and looks of a dewberry. Supposed to grow 15 to 20 ft. high, bear 2 to 3 tons per acre. Seems like a find.

CATS: Three of them that eat tomatoes and a heifer calf that sucks a mare.

An arbor of grapes remarkably free of worms with four years of organic care, no sprays except one to repel beetle and about as much blight in tomatoes without spray this wet season as my neighbors who sprayed heavily.

FACTS POINT TO PROFIT!!

The production of honey locust at Auburn, Ala. The many reports of chestnuts bearing 100 lbs. at 10 to 12 years of age, selling for from 40¢ to \$1.00 a lb., black walnuts \$8.00 per bushel, blueberries \$2,000 an acre is an indication of -- it's time now for America to start in planting her slopes and ridges, wet meadows and rocky knolls to "crop trees" to fortify ones income in mixed farming.

For the first time in years we're proudly able to offer Thomas, Elmer Meyers, Ohio, Cornell, and Broadview English in strong two year sizes up to 10 ft., Chinese Chestnut up to 6 ft., Honey Locust up to 12 ft.

Remember - my experience in planting America's #1 "Tree Crop" farm shows it pays to recommend the largest tree - for quick bearing - to get above cattle reach - to make you feel good.

PROGRESS OF THE TREE CROP FARM

This fall there isn't much to say. Progress on America's number one "tree crop" farm is somewhat at a standstill while the trees grow.

Winter kill after the wet fall, early freeze and terrible winter, was rough on honey locust and mulberry and bad on persimmon. It's quite jarring to have to wait another year or two while the trees make heads again or new trees become established. My two year plantings of Black and English walnut interplanted to Chinese chestnut are roaring along - even planted on poor, rocky land. Of course we mulched them heavily with manure, 6 to 10 ft. across with weeds kept mowed by scythe and sickle.

This spring we planted a 5 acre, poor, rocky sand field to filberts and chestnuts, a heavy wet meadow of over two acres to all kinds of hickory, pecans, and hicans with persimmons as fillers for hog and cattle feed. One field yet to go with walnut and chestnut. These mulched with two dirt shovels of composted back house manure, then 5 to 7 dirt shovels of leaf compost. We hoed twice in mid-summer and scythed twice. Will be mulched more with manure or rotten pea vines from a pea sheller.

On this and last year's plantings in sod, where the rows were in soy beans last year I ran the spreader, "a round" to each row, sprinkling alsike, red and ladino clovers over the top of the spreader. The stand is excellent. The purpose is to hold down the weeds on the tree row, enrich the soil and spread seed all over the field.

In the hickory-pecan, persimmon planting and in all the honey locust plantings in the meadows the rows were plowed up one to two years ago. Hence a new growth, mostly weeds, is established. Here I sowed these clovers around the edge of the mulch at each tree for the same purpose. The soil is so poor it'll hardly grow weeds. I figure if I can get a stand of grass established until I can find time, money, and manure to feed the ground, I'll be just that much ahead. Saving a heavy outlay of cash at one time.

The general farm program. Asparagus half off because of cold weather. Raspberries ruined by winter kill. Income from them two-thirds off.

Blueberries: Our first planting now making their 5th years growth are really starting to grow, crop light, due to wet blooming season. We've given them two applications of sawdust manure. We bed heavy with sawdust and "clean out" before it gets too manurish. Plus a heavy application of raw phosphate rock in the manure.

The swamp planting of about 3/4 acre sowed to soybeans last year - I hoped to have a volunteer stand this summer. But the pheasants 'et all the beans last winter and the damned rabbits trimmed the berry plants to the ground. Here the same type of manure was applied on the row with the spreader running full tilt straddling the row. So we sickled along each side of the berry row and mulched a foot on each side with half composted leaves. Later scythed the whole patch.

The nipping the rabbits gave the plants did them good. They're growing with a vim AND, all the bloom being cut off, they're spending all their time growing into bushes. More important than a few berries.

To bring you up to date on progress on gross income - 1st year \$100, 2nd year \$150, 3rd year \$850, this, the 4th year \$1606 plus a growing inventory. We'll make a much stronger shake at profit from now on because help has gotten to where we are growing the grain we've had to buy. You know the educator's liberal idea let loose on the nation of making two jobs grow where one grew before, just about ruins the chances of getting ahead.

Inventory of farm crops runs something like this: $4\frac{1}{2}$ acres of barley harvested over 180 bushel of grain and 3 tons of straw; $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres of sod plowed after hay making and sowed to soybeans and millet made a fair crop of hay was too wet to be good. This was then sowed to barley. A good coat of manure in the north field of walnuts and chestnuts made three good loads of hay where one grew before.

Six acres I mentioned above to be planted to walnut were plowed this summer when we had time and sowed to buckwheat for feed. The straw, not worth a hoot for bedding will be left in the field for "disking in" for wheat. I understand this straw runs high in the three major plant foods as well as calcium.

Live Stock Inventory: five heifers coming in this fall - should be worth at least \$1,000; we're hoping for \$1,200. Seven bulls 7 months old and five heifers just started, plus 75 laying hens.

In them there hens likes a funny tale. For nearly 25 years we've kept chickens and always had good winter laying. Last winter even swearing wouldn't make 'em lay. So after feeding them till January I sold them off. Then the good wife says, "I'll take over the chickens if you can't get eggs, and I'll squeeze them out; I've always done the work anyway." She's doing good, too. But it shows the importance of making good "all the time" or losing your job.

THE ART OF LIVING - SOIL HUSBANDRY

Last year you remember I mentioned the importance of having to live with a piece of land before you know what you want to do with it. Well, after you do what you want with it you get an interesting lesson in sticking on the job if you don't want your initial efforts to be in vain.

Day in and day out, evenings in and out, while the depressed ranks of labor plays on their fat pay check, I spend my time trimming, pruning, shaping, weeding; sowing a little grass seed here, hoeing a little there. A newly planted tree here, one there dragging its feet, I trimmed back and retamped. A good retamping mostly brings them out.

Even one MUST have a good wife as mine. We have an old strawberry patch not worth picking, for we found the price of the berries just covered the pickers time. BUT BETTY picked them, sold \$22 worth, made 3 dozen glasses of preserves and short cake every day for a month.

The red raspberries were killed back; not worth picking, but she picked four to six pints a day at 25¢ a pint. The straw balers came at 8:30 Saturday night; she drove one truck while I loaded.

SMOKE THIS IN YOUR PIPE

Centralized government with an "agricultural priesthood" in Washington misses the head on the nail same as centralized government has since the dawn of history. It only paralyzes with tax burdens and stifles individual thinking with no problems solved.

And don't think for a minute Dewey will solve our problems. He, like Roosevelt, developed his wing feathers as governor of New York in the greatest "taxing" - greatest social "nose wiping" - greatest spender that that great state has ever seen while he yaps about economy in federal government.

Transferring his zeals to Washington of "a better living" for the indolent and subsidies for farmers will be the next "dance of death" for America.

Transferring your attention and mine to a beautiful fire house in the distance don't give our home "fire protection." Centering our attention on international Utopia won't solve our domestic affairs. All we can do is hope he'll do some good.

But if each individual soil owner resolves in his heart to make "BETTER THINGS FOR BETTER LIVING THRU LIVING THINGS," by creating and re-creating natural resources on the soil, by making a new shovel full of dirt or a state full, by planting a crop tree or a state full, we can retain our economy forever in spite of low down "spiritual bastards" under guise of "helping God," getting us into wars every 25 years.

Or in domestic problems, of teaching the individuals to keep sitting on their asses while sciences and the government brings it to them instead of, as Moses exclaimed - "leap on your asses" and "go up and take the Promised Land." We'll have government that'll live within its income instead of on the taxpayer's!!

Mind, unfettered by materialism and culture is "adventurous." Study the animal mind in nature. Study the primitive human mind. Study the mind in a young civilization and you find a mind willing to forego material security for adventure. I'm adventuring in "new thot" in the heart of a materialistic civilization. I'm introducing new ways of soil husbandry - "tree crops," and getting as much thrill as any "red skin" shootin' rough neck of yester year.

Should the farm papers, the farm magazines, the radio publicize the work of the little farmers' adventures in new things, instead of the "soul searing" success stories of making money, the security level against the "isms" would raise 500%. Many a soul is yearning to "dare" but he's scared under the pressure of modern thot - "security." He has no stimulant without reading about the stories of others doing it.

And in so doing -- we'll build a virulent population against those politicians who, gripped by an evil spirit of doom, vote for the destruction of America in their zeal to save it.

Science looks on a piece of soil as a something to pound out the last ounce of "profit" paper money.

One tuned to the laws of the universe looks on land as a brother. He and soil are the same thing, for you and I are only a "hunk of mud" blown full of "wind" for a little while and Oh!! so "little" "a while."

As I look over the earth's surface, I hear the "farm" unto the "farmer" say "Gently, brother, gently pray. Why so harsh with me."

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